

CHARNEY SPEAKS ON AIR IN THOMPSON CASE:

# Demand Congress Probe Jail Assault

A demand for a Congressional investigation to determine the "suspicious circumstances surrounding the unprovoked felonious assault" on Robert Thompson, framed up under the thought-control Smith Act, was made last night in a radio address over WMGM by George Blake Charney, co-counsel for Thompson and People's Rights Party candidate for District Attorney of New York County.

(Robert G. Thompson, although still on the critical list, was resting comfortably yesterday, prison authorities reported. See Page 3.)

Earlier in the day, Charney addressed a telegram to Sen. William Langer (R-N.D.) urging that Langer, as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, order the probe.

In his wire to Langer, which he read to his radio audience, Charney said that "this murderous assault also raises immediately the question of the safety of Smith Act and other political prisoners now in federal penitentiaries elsewhere."

Charney, who was in the same jail last February, immediately

## PROTEST MEETING THURS.

A meeting to protest the murderous assault on Robert Thompson will be held at 8 p.m. this Thursday. The meeting will be held at the Yugoslav - American Hall, 405 W. 41 St.

after his own conviction, said he was "in a unique position to relate the background of this horrible, unprovoked attack and possibly to explain its larger meaning to all decent Americans."

### Text of Speech

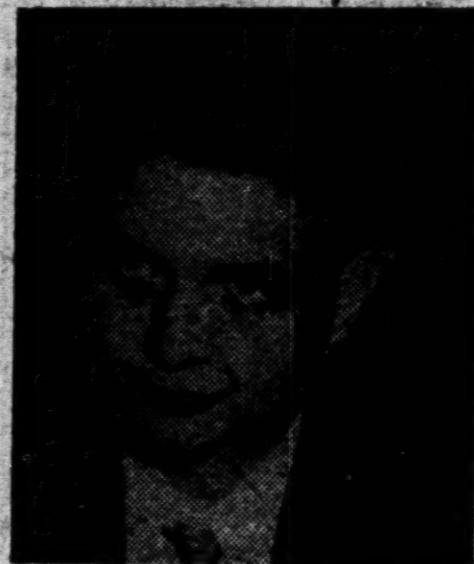
Charney's speech follows:

"Friends:

Tonight I had planned to speak to you about New York City's longshore situation and the waterfront situation.

But I find I cannot. My heart and mind tonight are in Bellevue prison ward, where there lies a man at death's door. He is a dear friend of mine, a courageous son

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ROBERT THOMPSON

## A PIPELINE TO 'WORKER' FUND

Besides saving a lot of people from lung cancer, Joe North's article on the harmful effects of cigarette smoking in The Worker of Oct. 11 has had other beneficial aspects. A friend of his in Mexico sends \$5 and writes:

"Your article has made me calculate that my smoking a pipe instead of cigarettes, I manage to save a few pennies a week . . . .

Received over the weekend ----- \$ 1,292.00  
Total so far ----- \$33,476.72  
Still to go ----- \$26,523.28

Send your contributions to P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station, New York City 3; or bring to 35 E. 12th St., 8th floor.

useful thing can be accomplished (with this money) such as enabling you to write and have published a continuous stream of pieces. . . .

Go then, and do likewise.

From other points South, there were several contributions over the weekend. A group of friends of The Worker in Birmingham, Ala., sends \$5 and writes: "We certainly need it down here to give leadership in the people's struggle in the South."

From Austin, Tex., comes \$5.50, and that wonderful all-year-round plunger in Apopka, Fla., sends \$20 more, \$18 of which fills out her coupon book (\$25 worth of coupons) and "\$2 more for good measure for the paper which I hope to see published for a good many years." With supporters like that they'll never lick us.

And from a group of former Southern workers comes \$35 to

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## Farmers Cold to Benson Talk, Demand He Act

By ROB F. HALL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—President Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Benson, proved a futile King Canute today when he commanded the waves of farm unrest to be still. Three hundred and fifty cattlemen from 33 states, packing the Jefferson Auditorium in the Agriculture Department Building, listened to Benson in stony silence, paid him the courtesy of polite applause, but did not retreat one inch from their demand for Government action to place a floor under the steadily slipping cattle prices.

Benson told the farmers, ranchers and cattle feeders that under the present cattle purchase program recently instituted by the Department, there were some signs of "stabilization" in the cattle market and that the outlook was even for some small increases in prices to farmers.

Benson had finished his speech and had hardly taken his seat when Dennis Driscoll, a cattle feeder from Colorado Springs, Colo., a spokesman for the group, took the floor to respond. After politely thanking Benson for his "trouble" in coming down to speak to them, Driscoll said he wanted to take exception to one thing Benson had said.

"If what we have now," he stated, "is a stabilized market and if the only outlook for us is a cent or two rise, then I say God help the cattle man and the cattle industry."

Ranchers who had sat stolidly while Benson spoke rose to their feet clapping and cheering at this statement.

### NEED AID NOW

"We do need help and we need it now," said Driscoll. The cattle men cannot wait until next January, he added. "We don't speak for the big cattlemen who control the big associations. We speak for the man with 200 head or less. They are going broke and going out of business. There are many in this hall now who are broke, and unless the Government does something, when they go home they will have to sell out and quit."

"We are simply asking for a raise in pay for our labor. We want to live on the standard of living we have helped build for America, and not live like peons."

The temper of the farmers was such that Benson could not out of

(Continued on Page 8)

## Wage Negotiations in Milk Strike Continue

By HARRY RAYMOND

Negotiations between five AFL Teamsters' Union locals and representatives of 200 milk companies continued behind closed doors in the Hotel Biltmore Hotel yesterday, but at a late hour the strike of 13,000 dairy plant workers and field Farms plant at 1055 Webster Ave., the Bronx. A small crew worked there under union auspices bottling milk for hospitals, schools, nurseries and institutions. Fifteen trucks manned by union men delivered this milk.

Most of the large tank trucks that shuttle milk from the dairy farm areas to the city stopped running. Those few that came into the city stood unloaded at the bottling plants.

The strike involves plant workers and drivers represented by Locals 338, 584, 602, 607 and 680 of the AFL International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Strikers demand a \$15-a-week wage increase. The employers countered with an offer of \$2.10 to plant workers, but no offer to drivers.

Union spokesmen say there are 47 "fringe" issues, an accumulation from the war and post-war years.

Pickets patrolled the milk processing plants.

One federal mediator said the walk-out might last more than a

week.

## Puerto Ricans Picketing UN Today

Practically all the opposition parties of Puerto Rico will demonstrate today (Tuesday) in front of the United Nations demanding that the UN reject the U.S. government's request that it be exempt from reporting on its administration of Puerto Rico on the grounds that Puerto Rico is no longer a colony.

These parties point out that granting of "Commonwealth" status to Puerto Rico does not alter the basic colonial relations.

The Independentist Communist and Nationalist parties of Puerto Rico had requested to be heard by the UN on this matter. The Trusteeship Committee rejected the Independentist Party's request Sept. 30 by vote of 25 to 19, with 11 abstentions and five absences.

The large number of favorable votes and abstentions was considered a moral victory of the independence forces, and it was held to be of worldwide significance that only the colonial powers and their most subservient followers

voted against the hearings.

Besides the Puerto Rican parties, the Committee to Clarify the Status of Puerto Rico, which is sponsoring the picket line, received pledges of participation from several New York trade unions, mainly in the electrical, garment, maritime, metal working and food industries, as well as from other local organizations.

The picket line will be held at 42nd Street and First Avenue, 5 to 7:30 p.m.

## McCARTHYISM AND THE ELECTION

-See Editorial  
Page 5



## Bob Thompson 'Resting Comfortably'

By ELIHU S. HICKS

Robert G. Thompson, Communist Party National Committee member against whom a murder attempt was made last week, is "resting comfortably" Federal prison officials reported yesterday. Thompson is still on the "critical list."

The Communist leader, a World War II Silver Star veteran, has been near death at the Bellevue Hospital prison ward since last Friday when a fascist thug stole up behind him on a Federal House of Detention lunch time and smashed his skull with a thirty-inch length iron pipe.

An operation was performed at Bellevue Friday night to remove splinters of Thompson's skull which had been imbedded in his brain by the fascist's blows.

Hospital authorities yesterday said that they were not permitted to give any report on the condition of the working-class leader, and referred all inquiries to the Federal House of Detention.

Attempts by this reporter to see Mr. Kenton, an authority in charge of the prison, were futile. The guard at the door reported Mr. Kenton "has nothing to say." On the telephone, however, Kenton said that the last word he had from the hospital was that Thompson was "resting comfortably." The hospital authorities had been instructed, he said, not to give out any information. They refused even to give the prison full answers to questions, he reported.

The State Committee of the Ohio Communist Party yesterday issued a statement which called the attack on Thompson a "direct outgrowth of the hysteria-breeding drive against all democratic rights being waged by the billionaire-dominated government in Washington. From the attack on democratic rights, it was only a matter of time before the lives of defenders of democracy would be attacked.

"Thompson in particular, with an outstanding war record in defense of democracy against fascism, has been the object of previous assaults, and his family had been repeatedly subjected to attacks and indignities by fasciminded hoodlums."

The statement demanded that Washington recognize the status of "political prisoner," grant immediate amnesty to Smith Act victims, allow Mrs. Leona Thompson to obtain the best possible medical attention for Thompson and prosecute the "would-be assassin."

## USSR Protests To Greece on War Base Move

MOSCOW, Oct. 26.—The Soviet Government today protested to Greece that Greek territory is being transformed into a base for "the aggressive forces of the Atlantic bloc," and that this creates a threat to peace in the Balkans.

The Soviet protest was contained in a note delivered by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Gromyko to Prime Thomas Ypsilanti, councillor of the Greek Embassy here.

The note said Greece had signed an agreement giving the U. S. the right to "deploy armed forces in Greek territory and to build military bases, and also to use the railways and highways of Greece in accordance with the plans of the North Atlantic bloc."

## 'I Can Understand Why Fascists Tried to Kill Bob Thompson'

By STEVE NELSON  
PITTSBURGH.

I can well understand why the fascists tried to kill Bob Thompson. I met Bob first when he was badly wounded in an army hospital in Spain. He was a youth of 20 at that time, but even then he was a leader of outstanding ability.

Bob's thigh had been badly torn up by a fascist machine gunner in the battle of Jarama in early 1937. That was the battle that saved Madrid for another two years. And I was struck by Bob's courage. He was in great pain but he never groaned.

Bob spent several months in the hospital. But he was too impatient to get into action again to wait longer. He left before he was supposed to, and began training troops at the base at Albacete before he was cured. Soon Bob was made the commander of the McKenzie-Papineau Battalion of American and Canadian volunteers.

Bob led the battalion in the grim battle against the Hitler-Mussolini-

Franco forces at Fuentes de Ebro. Then his half-healed thigh cracked up again, and he couldn't take the field any more.

That was a bitter disappointment to Bob. He saw the terrible danger of fascism to America and the rest of the world. He was ready to give his life to stop it in Spain.

Bob's chance came after Pearl Harbor. He volunteered and became one of the two leading heroes of the war against the Japanese in New Guinea. The other was Herman Boettcher, another Spanish war veteran and another Communist.

Bob kept up the struggle against fascism when he got home—but this time the danger came from fascist monopolists at home.

The fascists couldn't kill Bob in Spain or New Guinea. Now they are trying to do it at home. They tried once before when he was stabbed in Queens.

The McCarthyite Pittsburgh Press treats this cold-blooded mur-

der plot against Bob as the work of an "anti-Communist" crank—a lone individual. But that is a crude distortion.

The assassin, Alexander Pavlovic, did not plan this attack by himself. Pavlovic was not working alone when he committed assassinations on behalf of Hitler's agents during the World War. And it is obvious that he was not working alone when he armed himself for the assault on Bob Thompson.

How did a Federal prisoner get that deadly piece of lead pipe? Mr. Bennett, director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, should answer that question.

As one who has seen life in prison, it is plain to me that Pavlovic could not have gotten that weapon and gotten out of line to kill Thompson unless he had support. I mean both moral and actual support.

We can be sure that the plotters will try to cover up the men behind this assassin. But they must

not be allowed to get away with it. American democracy—as well as the immediate safety of all political prisoners—is at stake.

**Editor's Note:** Steve Nelson—author of the remarkable war book *Volunteers*—shared Thompson's vivid battle experiences in Spain, where Nelson was a lieutenant-colonel in the International Brigade.

Nelson also has first hand evidence of the murder plots against political prisoners. His own life was threatened by guards in the Brownwood Workhouse, where he was thrust into the dungeon "hole" several times. A gun-wielding fascist also tried to kill him while he lay on a hospital cot after his arrest in Pittsburgh.

Nelson has been sentenced to a total of 25 years in prison because of his peace and labor activities. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court may any day hand down its decision on his appeal against a 20-year sentence.

## 500 Applaud Harvey O'Connor's Stand Against Sen. McCarthy

The courageous refusal of a prominent American writer, Harvey O'Connor, to let the McCarthyite committee pry into his political beliefs was heartily applauded by more than 500 persons who filled the hall at Fraternal Clubhouse, 48th Street and Sixth Avenue.

O'Connor, author of such classics as "Mellon's Millions" and a history of the Oil Union, faces jail on the trumped charge of "contempt" because he told Sen. McCarthy it was none of his business what political affiliations any American had. The First Amendment guarantees all Americans freedom from Congressional inquiry as to their political activities, O'Connor told the McCarthy committee. Since Congress is forbidden to pass any law involving free speech, no Congressional committee can legitimately probe an American's views on any subject. O'Connor said.

The rally was called by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, Clark Foreman director.

Enthusiastic applause was given journalist I. F. Stone when he emphatically said it was time for progressives to realize that "the basic defense of civil liberty means to defend the rights of Communists." Without this defense of the rights of Communists, he said, "no one is safe."

Stone noted that there is the same objective, to defend liberty, among those who stand by the Fifth Amendment and those who are now resuming the fight to test the First Amendment in challenging McCarthyism.

"We are going to fight to prevent people from having to become informers," he said.

He noted that the Supreme Court had refused to consider the defense of the First Amendment when the Hollywood Ten and other victims of the "contempt" charge asked for a ruling. The (Continued on Page 6)

## Detroit Judge Will Adjourn Trial If UnAmericans Visit

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT, Oct. 26.—Saul Wellman, Communist Party leader acting as his own counsel in the Michigan Smith Act trials, won an admission from Federal Judge Frank Picard and U. S. District Attorney Fred Kaess that possibility of a fair trial is jeopardized if the Un-American Activities Committee not to come here during the trial. Judge Picard said if they did come he would adjourn the trial.

The trial will open tomorrow. Wellman, Nat Canley and Thomas Dennis will act as their own counsel, while Helen Allison Winter, William Allan and Phil Schatz are defended by Ernest Goodman, former assistant counsel

of the CIO United Auto Workers. Judge Picard stated he had written Rep. Kit Clardy (R-Mich) a letter asking the Un-American Committee not to come here during the trial. Clardy is chairman of a subcommittee of the Un-Americans scheduled to launch a witchhunt of unions, universities and religious groups here Nov. 30. Wellman cited the previous visit of Un-Americans here and described their activities as inciting terror, violence and hysteria.

He pointed to the fact that the defense would have witnesses on the stand and that Clardy had said he would sit in the courtroom during the trial. This Wellman charged is intimidation and also is prejudicing a jury.

He then asked the judge and district attorney if they would join him in asking the committee to stay out.

Judge Picard said then he was willing to go along, and Kaess agreed.

The judge earlier had denied a motion by Goodman to sever Mrs. Winter's case. Mrs. Winter has been practically an invalid for a year with phlebitis in the legs, which is now reported to have spread to her arm. She also suffers from arthritis in both hips and has a sacroiliac condition in her spine.

## NLRB Applying Butler Bill Even Before It Is Passed

Guy Farmer, chairman of the National Relations Board, will attempt to put into effect the union-busting policy of the proposed Butler bill through new administrative procedures of his body. That was the meaning of his announcement last Saturday to a conference of business editors in Boston.

The Butler bill, upon which hearings are soon due to begin, would deprive a union of bargaining rights certification when even one of its officers is under charges before the Subversive Activities Control Board.

Henceforth, said Farmer, if an officer of a union is indicted for allegedly signing T-H affidavits falsely, certification would be immediately denied, even if the union of that officer wins an NLRB election. The effect, as in the Butler bill, would be to hold the union "guilty" on a mere charge or indictment of one of its officers. The law that holds a person "innocent" until proven "guilty" is scrapped. Pending such an indictment and appeal, which may run into months and years, a union can be wiped out.

Farmer was boastful of a small-scale example he had already given during the short period the NLRB has been under Eisenhower, as in the case of Local 214, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, Cincinnati. That local's recording secretary, Tevis Bruce Schooler, was convicted on the charge of signing a Taft-Hartley affidavit falsely. While the Schooler

case is under appeal, the NLRB announced that the local will be deprived of certification rights.

A similar move was taken with respect to Camden, N. J., local of the United Packinghouse Workers, CIO, of which Anthony Valentino, convicted of a similar charge, was business agent. The Valentino case

was reversed, however. He is now reinstated on the same charge but on other technical grounds.

The new move by Farmer, coinciding with a review his department is making of some 500 T-H affidavits, is clearly aimed, to start with, at a number of progressive. (Continued on Page 6)

## Aviation Strikers Seek Wages Comparable With Other Industries

DETROIT, Oct. 26.—The basic reason for the strike of the North American Aviation Co.'s 33,000 employees is the refusal of the firm to meet the wage levels already established in comparable industries.

John W. Livingston, vice-president of the CIO United Automobile Workers, said here.

Livingston said the union postponed its showdown with the company on the issue for an entire year, yielding to last year's Wage Stabilization Board plea that the issue be taken up again when the wage freeze was off. Confronted with new negotiations a year later,

Livingston said.

The union is demanding a raise of 26 cents an hour for the company's workers in Los Angeles, Columbus, O., and Fresno, Cal., to bring levels in line with other plane firms.

Last year's proposal to postpone settlement of the differential came from a three-man government panel that made a study of the situation.

"This year, however, the U. S. government has taken a different position," continued Livingston.

He reminded Charles E. Wilson, secretary of defense, of last year's secret ballot for striking.

conditional agreement by the union to hold off a strike on the plea that "Korean war effort" was endangered, and added that now the department's spokesman informed me that neither the Defense Department nor the Air Force was interested in the matter, and that "they regarded it as strictly a collective bargaining matter between the union and the company."

General Motors, of which Wilson was head, is heavily interested in North American Aviation.

The strike was called after workers showed a 95 percent majority

# Wisconsin Anger at Layoffs and Low Dairy Prices

By CARL HIRSCH

A PARTNERSHIP of small farmers and shop workers recently changed the political complexion of Wisconsin's Ninth Congressional District, in which Lester Johnson, Democrat, defeated Arthur Padruitt, Republican in the Congress by-election.

Such a partnership could change the face of America in next year's congressional elections.

There was a mighty big lesson in that Wisconsin election. If you talk to people up around Eau Claire and Menomonie, you find the impelling economic reasons why labor and farmers got together to elect the first Democrat that ever represented the district.

"At the creamery, I get six cents a quart for milk," a dairy farmer explained, "but the fellow in town pays 21 cents at the store. Something's wrong."

Even deeper roots of the upset election here are to be found in the fear of depression. The district's two industrial towns were hit by large-scale layoffs shortly

before the elections. And the farmers have been haunted by such fears for the 21 months that farm prices have been dropping.

There was nothing strange, then, in the kind of opposition that began to take shape against the Eisenhower Republican, Arthur L. Padruitt, in this 11-county "Republican stronghold" of Western Wisconsin.

FIRST, some influential farmers joined the Lester R. Johnson for Congress Committee. Eventually, they were joined by the heads of the two big local unions in Eau Claire, Kenneth Nisbel of the CIO Steelworkers and Magne Reapal of the CIO Rubber Workers.

They joined up only after a careful look at the Democratic candidate. The story is that they kept Johnson up until 4 a.m. one morning, quizzing him on issues.

Johnson passed. He said that the Taft-Hartley Act should be repealed outright, that he is for lasting peace through the United Nations, that he is dead

set against McCarthyism.

Johnson had already made clear to the farmers that he was for full parity and opposed to the Big Business bias of the Eisenhower Administration.

The Johnson for Congress Committee made up in vigorous campaigning what it lacked in funds. Personal contact with the farmers brought encouragement to the committee, even though victory seemed remote.

"We knew the farmers were mad," one campaigner declared. "We didn't know they were mad enough to vote Democratic."

THE WORKERS responded strongly to the anti-Eisenhower campaign. Two months before election, the U.S. Rubber plant laid off 400 workers. The Presto aluminum pressure cooker plant laid off 750.

Many of these laid off workers put in time canvassing for Johnson around the county. Some worked on the telephone, calling people as they were listed in the phone book.

distribution of this pamphlet in New York City.

I AM MAKING this appeal for circulation of our pamphlets to also help increase mass support for our own appeal, which is quite forgotten by a good many people.

One of our defendants met a prominent labor leader on the street recently who said in surprise: "Why, I thought you were in jail!" Others see us around and think some miracle has happened and we are safe from imprisonment. I have even heard some people say, if one is tactless enough to mention prison: "Oh! Don't talk about it!"

One woman said to my sister rather patronizingly, "Do you really think Elizabeth will go to jail?" as if Kathie were guilty of a social error to even refer to it.

The Citizens' Emergency Defense Conference, of which Clifford McAvoy is chairman, has no such illusions. They are selling the pamphlets at 35 cents each or three for \$1, for our defense. Their address now is Room 608, at 80 E. 11 St., N.Y. 3.

They distribute also the opening and closing speeches of Pettis Perry and myself, as counsel pro se in the trial. If you want a copy of each of these pamphlets, three in all, send \$1 and they will gladly send them to you. They sell them for the benefit of our defense fund, to carry on our appeal.

SPEAKING OF FUNDS, I want to join with all other columnists, editors and reporters of the Daily Worker in urging a quick and generous support for the fund drive of our paper, and will welcome any contributions made to it in the name of this column.

I have no arguments to add to what so many devoted readers have already eloquently expressed. This paper is the sword and shield of the fighters for peace and freedom. Just imagine where we'd be without it!

Help make it strong and enduring for the battles ahead. It has suffered many blows from the Smith Act. Its editor and one of its publishers—Gates and Davis—are in prison. Its representatives in Detroit, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Cleveland—Allen, Dolson, Lowensfeld and Katz—are Smith Act targets. Some who write for it are likewise. But with your support it will give blow for blow till the chains let go and the power of gold gives way!

Has your newsstand been running out of Daily Workers? Send a postcard giving the location, including the precise street corner, or call AL 4-7034.

The cooperatives in the district also got into the campaign on the side of Johnson. The state Farmers Union held its convention in Eau Claire, coming out strongly for 100 percent parity.

The new farmer-labor unity took shape, based on the mutual economic issues of 1953 grounded in the LaFollette Progressive movement of the 20s. It paid off on Election Day with the Johnson victory.

The post-election statement by the loser, Padruitt, underscored the crucial question of farmer-labor unity. "The results show clearly," he said, "that the farmer and the laboring man do not like the present administration's policies."

MEANWHILE, the farmer-labor unity trend was advanced in many states. Unions like the UAW-CIO and the UE, in their conventions, spoke out more strongly for joint political action with the farmers.

The United Packinghouse Workers carried out a program

of setting up booths at county and state fairs and distributing literature to farmers.

In South Dakota, Oregon and California, farmer-labor movements took shape in support of rural electrification projects, cutting of utility rates, opposition to the Administration's giveaway of public power plants.

In fact, the joint action of farmers and workers took place wherever there was a mutual issue and wherever a sincere attempt at unity was made.

The basis lay in a joint struggle against the policies of a Big Business administration in Washington. Common ground could readily be found between farmers who can't afford to buy tractors and workers who can't afford to eat beefsteak.

These developments point to the possibilities of something new in the unfolding political scene. They could foreshadow the resurgence of the progressive farmer-labor alliance, which has not been a major political factor since the New Deal days.

## A Better World

by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

### Things I Hear

I AM SURPRISED at things I hear, for instance, how many people say, "Oh! I read them in the Daily Worker" when I speak of the pamphlet, "13 Communists Speak to the Court." The pamphlet is 95 pages long and what was given in the paper were short extracts reported in the daily story of the trial. Unless you have read the pamphlet you have not read these speeches.

Recently I read a comparison of literature sales in a Communist Party bulletin, for New York and California. I was shocked to realize how few in New York can have read our speeches in court. The figures are 350 in New York and 265 in California. This does not include what has been sold through the Citizens' Emergency Defense Conference to individuals.

Only a comparatively few people were in court and heard the speeches, but they were enthusiastic. So were the defendants about each other's efforts. William Z. Foster wrote an enthusiastic review in which he said half a million should be sold. But the figures are disappointingly short of a tenth of the number.

I have heard from Europe that the pamphlet is greatly appreciated there. Maybe, as the Bible says, "a prophet is without honor in his own country."

THESE SPEECHES were all written in jail, while we were awaiting sentence. They are not lengthy, but because there were 13 of us, they took a day and a half to deliver. Each has a personal ring and an individual flavor as to our background,

who we are, why we are Communists, what Communism means to us. It is a many-sided presentation mirroring our experiences, political views and purposes in life...

Each of us was very proud of our Party and our co-defendants as we listened to these speeches. Here spoke veterans of the class struggle, trade unionists, Party organizers, leaders of the Negro people, writers, teachers, editors, the publisher of the Marxist classics there on trial, a veteran of World War II.

When the speeches were concluded, we were sentenced to one, two, and three year sentences and fines of \$2,000 to \$6,000. We are now out on heavy bail, pending appeal.

Included in the pamphlet also is our reply to the Judge's strange offer to "spend the rest of our lives in the Soviet Union, as a substitute for prison." Our refusal was distorted and misrepresented in the press. A magazine in the Soviet Union, however, applauded us as "true patriots" because we refused to turn our backs on our own country.

THERE IS SUCH a constant barrage of anti-Communist articles, speeches and editorials, such a lionizing of stoolpigeons, renegades and FBI planted agents, such publicizing of their vicious lies about Communists, that this pamphlet and others on the list in the bulletin I referred to should be a welcome relief to every honest man and woman. Our job is to distribute them.

In the current campaign, for instance, of George Charney for District Attorney, his magnificent speech in the court on Feb. 3 should reach the prospective voters. It speaks for those who are targets of the Smith Act, McCarran Act, and McCarthyism in all its vicious forms. It demolishes the lie of conspiracy. It shows what true patriotism is, as defined here by a man who "was prepared to die for his country in the war against fascism."

During the present campaign and just before our case is argued, which will be some time after Nov. 16 when the brief is filed, is a good period for a mass

### PEACE NOTEBOOK:

## More Letters Hit British on Guiana

EXPRESSIONS OF DISAGREEMENT with the State Department-backed attack on the democratic right of the people of British Guiana are increasing. (Also see article elsewhere in this issue on the editorial in the Baltimore Afro-American.)

The following letter which appeared in the Herald Tribune of last Thursday and concluded with the simple reminder that democracy also means the right of peoples to live under governments of their own choosing, was so potent that a member of the British embassy in Washington hastily wrote a lengthy document "explaining" the British action. It was of course the same vague, red baiting, factless manner as the British Foreign Office.

The readers' letter in the Herald Tribune, under the heading "British Coup in Guiana," follows:

To the N.Y. Herald Tribune:

"The rushing of British troops to British Guiana and the overthrow of the duly elected Prime Minister, Cheddi Jagan, and his ministers are outrageous and deplorable.

"The people of British Guiana chose, through a free ballot, Cheddi Jagan and his party. In the recent general election, which granted universal adult suffrage, the People's Progressive party won 18 of the 24 elective seats in the House of Assembly.

"The British government's announcement that it staged the coup to head off a threatened Communist-inspired uprising sounds like a very weak excuse. The Progressive party had sought to force through the lower house a bill directing employers to recognize the unions certified by the labor minister. This act, which might be the equivalent to our Wagner labor relations act, hardly smacks of Communist intrigue. The Progressive party denies all of the British charges. The statement that 'an attempt might be made' by sabotage or armed methods hardly lends validity to the British coup.

"The principles of freedom and democracy include the defense of the right of all peoples to live under governments of their own choosing."

RICHARD SCHUCKMAN, Fairlawn, N.J., Oct. 20, 1953.

### 'The Country Is Not at War . . .'

THE FOLLOWING LETTER, expressing in the light of air crashes concern for the safety of young men drafted into the service, appeared in the Trenton (N.J.) Times under the heading "Post-War Dangers."

"Sir: Although the fighting in Korea is over, American parents are not able to relax about their sons who are in the armed services. Scarcely a day passes that the newspapers do not tell of the crash of another plane carrying servicemen.

"The country is not at war, and great speed in the transfer of troops is totally unnecessary. The American public should insist that ships and trains be used in transporting the boys who are so helplessly caught in the meshes of the draft."

MRS. LEWIS S. MORGAN.

## RETAIL GROCERS DECLARE IT IS UNDERCONSUMPTION

CHICAGO, Oct. 26.—The National Association of Retail Grocers asked yesterday that Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson consider its belief "that there is no overproduction in the country, except possibly on a few commodities."

Rather, the group said, "We are suffering from underconsumption."

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# Daily Worker

President — Joseph Dermer; Secretary-Treas. — Charles J. Hendley

## McCARTHYISM IN THE ELECTION

THE LAST MINUTE rush by the Farley-Impellitteri gang to the Wagner camp shows not only that these reactionaries have suffered a serious set-back but also that they never give up.

By climbing on to the Wagner wagon, these extreme reactionaries hope to recoup their own political fortunes. Still more sinister is their intention to try to shape the policies not only of the Wagner campaign, but also of the next city administration and of the 1954 elections.

Unfortunately, they see some possibilities for carrying through their designs. For while Wagner has made a strong bid for labor support, he also seeks to retain ties with anti-labor circles in the Democratic Party. Himself a target of McCarthyite attacks throughout the primary campaign, Wagner now echoes some McCarthyisms like the "need" to clean out "Communists" from the school system. This, of course, has been one of the McCarthyites' main rallying cries with which they have already done inestimable harm to the schools and hope to turn the entire education system into an instrument for McCarthyism.

Wagner stated over TV on Sunday that "it is the liberal rather than the reactionary that the Communist fears and hates most."

Has Wagner forgotten that it was a united front of labor, liberals and Communists who battled alongside his father and Franklin D. Roosevelt against the tories and economic royalists?

Wagner should realize that his concessions to McCarthyism can only tend to divide the forces of democracy and strengthen the hand of the McCarthyites.

The efforts of the Farley Democrats to get a foothold in the Wagner camp, should put labor on its guard. It is not sufficient for the labor movement to rally enough votes to defeat Dewey's man Riegelman, as it is evidently having considerable success in doing. It is also necessary to press Wagner himself on ISSUES—not the least of which is the struggle against McCarthyism, an issue on which labor itself and even such Democratic leaders as Sen. Lehman are considerably ahead of Wagner.

At the same time, workers in the unions who all along were determined to vote either for Wagner or Halley should see the need for voting for other city-wide and for local candidates on Row D—the line of the American Labor Party, the only party whose program is four-square in the interests of labor and against McCarthyism.

A united front of supporters of Wagner, of Halley and of the ALP has aimed at knocking out Impellitteri and at defeating Riegelman. It has already achieved the first and consequently, despite the split over anti-Dewey candidates, has virtually assured the second. In this situation, it seems to us that the left should seek to strengthen its own position in every way possible as a means of strengthening the labor and people's coalition for 1954.

On Sept. 18—when Impellitteri had been defeated in the primaries—the Daily Worker, while encouraging the activity of the labor movement to defeat Riegelman in the finals, also called for a "big vote in November for the American Labor Party ticket headed by Clifford T. McAvoy" in order to advance "the interests of the working people of our city."

In the past few weeks—when Impellitteri was back in the race again—many progressives were undecided as to how they should vote for the top of the ticket. In their determination to guarantee the defeat of Impellitteri and Riegelman, they were waiting to see how things would develop.

We are convinced that the developments of the past week are such as to reassure all progressives on voting for the FULL ALP ticket.

(In Manhattan, of course we urge a vote for George Blake Charney, for District Attorney.)

While we disagree with those progressives who insist that ONLY A FULL ALP vote has any meaning, and while we see many encouraging and positive aspects to the labor movement's activity behind Wagner (and Halley too), the editors of the Daily Worker reaffirm their intention to vote for Clifford T. McAvoy and the ALP ticket and urge our readers to do likewise.

We take this position in full awareness that the majority of workers will vote for Wagner or Halley. We again urge these workers to re-inforce their ballot by voting for the rest of the places on the ALP line. This will not only be a blow to McCarthyism. It will be a big step toward unifying all progressive forces of our city for 1954.

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# Militant Miners in New Mexico

## Blacklisted and Denied Relief

BAYARD, N. M., Oct. 26.—Catastrophe threatens this mining town of 2,437 in the wake of a company "crackdown" on militant miners.

Shoeless children, their outer clothing at times reduced to rags, were being kept from schools. Families faced winter without heat or light as utilities companies joined mining combines in their squeeze on workers here. And several miners reported they were denied work in other areas because of their membership in the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union.

Denied aid from governmental agencies and the Red Cross, people of this unemployment-haunted community were finding their only hope in the aid now being rushed here by unions throughout the West.

Meanwhile, Mine-Mill Local 890 is still trying to get relief from the Surplus Commodities Corp. So far, that's been unsuccessful.

Sens. Dennis Chavez and Clinton D. Anderson, both Democrats, have expressed "sympathy," but

neither has moved to obtain material aid, miners said.

Nor is help forthcoming from the Red Cross. A representative was in Bayard last summer to investigate the situation. He spoke to small businessmen—not to miners' representatives.

He then told government officials that aid from the Surplus Commodities Corp. was "unnecessary," according to leaders of Local 890.

Bayard is one of the five towns comprising the Grant County mining area and is by far the hardest hit. Half its working force of 1,800 miners—almost all of them Mexican-Americans—are now out of jobs.

The shutdowns, miners emphasize, are not a result of lack of demand for zinc and lead, nor, as the mine owners claim, because "the price of lead and zinc is too low."

Juan Chacon, president of Mine-Mill Local 890, pointed out that the companies closed their mines only after their demands for termination of contracts held by Mine-

Mill were rejected. Chacon terms it part of a nationwide attack on Mine-Mill by employers and the government.

The mass shutdown began last December when Peru-Illinois Zinc closed its shafts. On Feb. 25, American Smelting & Refining Co. laid off its workers and announced it wouldn't open again for the time being.

Negotiations on a new contract between Local 890 and Empire Zinc may be the key to the future of mines still operating in the Grant County area.

It was at Empire Zinc that workers and their wives aided by trade unionists throughout the country won a historic 15-month strike.

Empire, like other companies, is said to be concentrating on lead and zinc production in South America and North Africa. Miners in North Africa are paid 75 cents a day, South American workers are paid \$1.20 daily.

Local 890's miners, Chacon said, average \$1.75 per hour—when they work.

## A Visit to a Polish Mine

Sam Russell, correspondent for the London Daily Worker, has written a series of articles in that paper on his recent trip through Poland. In the following article, Russell describes a visit to a Polish mine:

There's a town in Silesia called Dabrowa which many British soldiers know. For it was there that many were held prisoner by the Nazis during the war and forced to work in the local coal mines.

I visited one of these mines, formerly owned by a French-Italian company, now owned by the Polish people and called the General Zawadski after a man who once worked there as a miner and who is now chairman of Poland's State Council and titular head of the State.

That's how things are in Poland these days and there are many men in this mine who worked with chairman Zawadski and know of the struggles against the employers which he led in the 1920s.

### BAD OLD DAYS

In those days, as many of the miners told me when I talked with them at the coal face and later when we were having a shower at the pit head, unemployment and short-time and starvation was the common lot of the miners.

Miners were closed down and the miners tried to get down these closed pits to get coal which they then sold privately to get something to take home. Often armed Polish police used to raid these pits and many miners were killed.

In spite of the savage repression carried out against the miners by the Polish fascist regime which existed between the wars, Dabrowa maintained its revolutionary traditions.

And that was why, when the Nazis invaded Poland, they paid special attention to this pit. They seized over 200 men from the pit when they arrived with the Gestapo—and only three of these men returned at the end of the war.

In the company of the miners' assistant chief engineer 24-year-old Zygmunt Wysocki and the trade union branch secretary, I went to the bottom and started on our trip to the coal face.

Before we had gone 20 yards from the bottom of the shaft, we came on a cave hollowed out of the wall of the haulage tunnel. In this cave was a great statue of Saint Barbara, patron saint of the miners.

I could see how this statue was

candles and fresh flowers were in front of it. If ever there was a "Red mine" it surely must be the Zawadski Mine, yet no attempt has been made to interfere with this religious symbol.

Getting the coal is no problem in this pit, for the seam is about 13 ft. thick and the main problem is getting the coal away.

The miners told me how modernization of the pit since liberation has enabled production to be increased by leaps and bounds and earnings have increased accordingly.

Just what People's Democracy means for the miners in the Zawadski Mine was brought home to me in a conversation I had with 56-year-old Adam Ziaja, a miner for over 35 years.

Like champion smelter Imolek at the Kosciusko steel plant, he had suffered long spells of unemployment and starvation before the war. He, too, told me how his advice is now sought by engineers and technicians and how for the first time in his life he knows that he counts in the scheme of things.

He, too, has four weeks holiday with pay every year, and knows that he can afford to take that holiday, and above all, that his health and safety, like that of every miner, is the constant concern of management and Government.

But what Adam Ziaja was most enthusiastic about was the opportunity given to his children. He told me of his two daughters who had recently graduated at university, one as a biologist, the other

as an agronomist, while his son had graduated as an engineer.

Many of the new miners have come from the surrounding villages, where before the war they eked out a miserable existence on a tiny plot of land.

Now they work as miners while still keeping their land holdings, which have in many cases been increased in size and are worked by their families. And at those periods of the year when all hands are needed in the fields, these new miners are allowed three or four days off to help in the harvest or sowing.

New houses are being provided for the miners here and they can buy them for 45,000 zlotys, a price which has to be compared with the fact that many of them earn 3,000 zlotys a month.

The miners themselves help in the building of these houses and it is all done on a co-operative basis, so that one miner and his family help the others to build the houses, which are individually owned.

It is this knowledge that they own their mine, own their houses, have complete control in the running of the mine, that is responsible for the fact that with an increase of only 20 percent in personnel, the Zawadski Mine has doubled coal output since 1946.

Much remains to be done before Dabrowa is converted from the miserable mining town it was to the clean, green town of the future, but the miners of the Zawadski Mine are already well on the way.

## Deportation of Anti-Franco Hero Stayed by Writ

Manuel Cuevas Diaz was saved from deportation to Franco Spain, where he faces death, when a writ of habeas corpus, affording time for further action, was signed yesterday by Federal District Court Judge Sidney Sugarman, it was announced yesterday by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.

Manuel Cuevas Diaz was serving in the Spanish navy when the Spanish civil war broke out. When he found himself in the Franco Navy warring against his brothers and sisters who were fighting against fascist tyranny, he and the

vessel and brought it into the ranks of the Loyalists.

In September, 1952, Diaz was arrested in deportation proceedings on the flimsy charge of overstaying his time in the U. S. He was taken to Ellis Island, where he has been held without bail.

## APC Committee To Meet Nov. 15

An enlarged meeting of the National Committee of the American Peace Crusade will take place Nov. 15 in New York City, the organization's Resident Board announced.

The committee will analyze the relationship of the APC and to the increasing groups speaking out for peace through negotiations, it was stated.

The APC has published the first

## FUND DRIVE

(Continued from Page 1)

be credited to Abner Berry, and the plea for more stress on the need for greater understanding and support in labor's ranks for the Negro people's movement.

With all the fine letters and contributions, we received less than \$1,300 over the weekend, a sharp drop from the past couple of weekends, when we received over \$2,000.

We urge every reader, especially every subscriber now holding a coupon book, to go after all prospective contributors now—this week—and get it filled out by the weekend.

And remember those house parties for the weekend of Nov. 7-8. Let's shoot for the \$60,000 by that date.

The Far West was also heavily represented in contributions this past weekend. From Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, comes \$10 and a "thank you so much for your splendid paper." From Richmond, Calif., there is \$10; another \$5 from Los Angeles, \$1 from a place called Coffee Creek, Calif.

There is \$25—a filled-out coupon book—from Sherwood, Oregon, and another \$5 from Willemina, Ore. Still another five comes from Tacoma, Wash.

A Fond du Lac, Wis., reader sends \$3, apologizes by saying "you know how it is living on a pension." There is also \$10 from Terre Haute, Ind., and five from Forbes, N.D.

From a group of anthracite miners—must be Pennsylvania—we received \$50. And a worker in Pottsville, Pa., sends \$5, writing, "I will send more if this goes through." It has gone through.

There is also \$5 from Williamsport, Pa., and another \$2 from Torpedo, Pa. Providence, R. I., is the source of another buck.

A Cleveland reader sends \$20, saying: "I felt I must send what I could to keep The Worker going." There is \$25 from another Clevelander who filled out the coupon book, and \$25 from a Cincinnati reader who did likewise and writes: "I hope every reader and every good union man will help to complete the \$60,000 Fund Drive."

There is \$10 from Chicago "in answer to your appeal," and two others from that city of \$3 each. A Bostonian sends \$8, and a reader from Peabody, Mass., \$2. A Jersey City friend gives \$5 and a Union City friend still another five. There is \$15 from Detroit, \$10 of it from two young workers.

Out of upstate New York comes \$15 from Corning, \$10 from Buffalo, \$5 from Rochester, \$2 from East Rochester, and \$2 also from a steady supporter in Cottekill who is 86 years old and writes he is glad to be of some help to "my Daily Worker."

Those inimitable garment workers were up again, with \$89 contributed to the credit of Abner Berry, and another bunch with \$13 to be credited to George Morris. A Local 9 cloakmaker also contributes \$10 "in memory of a loyal friend." There is \$14 from a group of Queens shopworkers, and \$10 from social workers.

A worker sent \$16 contributed in honor of Robert Thompson, the militant workingclass fighter who was beaten by a fascist thug in jail.

There was \$121 collected by a group of Armenian-American friends of the paper; \$120 from a group of east siders; \$50 from Elmhurst, Queens; \$40 from the Prospect area of the Bronx; \$30 from Forest Hills in Queens; \$25 from Stuyvesant Town readers; \$17.50 from East Kings Highway in Brooklyn; \$10 from the Sheepshead Bay area in the same borough; and \$7 from Crown Heights. There was \$108 contributed through the Workers Bookshop.

Several individual New York contributions will have to be listed later.

## O'Connor

(Continued from Page 3) recent decision of the court to review the case of Julius Emspak, UE leader, facing "contempt" imprisonment, will bring up this issue again. Liberals like Corliss Lamont and Leo Huberman face the same charge along with O'Connor.

O'Connor lashed into the McCarthyite fake that "the old Aetos State Department" had bought his "communist books" thus supplying O'Connor with royalties "for communist coffers." He showed that the books had been contributed free of charge by the Mayoralty candidate.

In Memory of

**PAUL**

Deceased

*A firm friend for Peace,*

*Freedom, Democracy*

**FRIENDS FROM  
14th STREET**

## Farmers

(Continued from Page 1) hand reject their demand for price supports. He said he had an "open mind" and invited the group to name a committee which would sit down with representatives of the Department and work out a "practical plan."

But Benson exhibited his opposition to price supports in numerous side remarks. He stressed the difficulties with the Department's program of supporting hogs, potatoes and eggs. He emphasized the "complications" of a support program. He concluded nevertheless, "If you can come up with something that we are not doing, we'll consider it." That was Benson's only remark that evoked applause.

When the session concluded, this reporter buttonholed several farmers and asked them, "Are you satisfied with Benson's speech?"

"He has no program," said a cattle feeder from Vinita, Okla.

"Roosevelt said we had only to fear fear itself. Benos has put fear back into the livestock industry," said an Ohio feeder who feeds 25 to 30 cattle.

"He's just trying to pacify us," said a cattleman from southern Minnesota.

But all agreed that Benson's consent to "consider" their plan was a victory they had won by coming to Washington in numbers.

The cattlemen arrived here last night, coming mainly by chartered busses, although some came by train and cars and several, it was reported by chartered planes. They were neatly if simply dressed, their occupation was revealed only by the handwritten cards in their laps. A few wore western boots and wide-brimmed Stetson hats.

Undoubtedly there were some substantial operators in their midst, but the majority of those with whom this reporter talked were medium and small ranchers and feeders. The caravan was organized by the National Farmers Union, but less than half of the visitors were members of that organization. The caravan, it was explained by James Patton, president of the NFU, took shape out of a series of meetings in the drought stricken areas.

### A DAY OF MEETINGS

The day was a continuous round of meetings for them, beginning at 8 this morning when they gathered at the American Legion Hall. At 11 they met with Benson and his aides, and at 2 they resumed their own meeting at Legion Hall.

In their speeches from the floor as well as in private conversations, the cattlemen expressed the deepest concern not only for their own plight but for what the Benson program would do for the country. The danger, they said, is that irreplaceable foundation herds will be sold and slaughtered, thus creating a meat scarcity for years to come.

Noel McDade, an elderly rancher from Clayton, N. M., spoke directly to Benson. "Our people are in dire need, Mr. Secretary," he said.

R. Lawrence of Florida, put it

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## CHARNEY RADIO SCHEDULE

Following is the radio schedule of George Blake Charney, People's Rights candidate for District Attorney of New York County:

- Today, Tuesday, Oct. 27—WLJB (1190 kc)—10:15 a.m.
- Today, Tuesday, Oct. 27—WMGM (1050 kc)—9 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29—WLJB (1190 kc)—10:15 a.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29—WMGM (1050 kc)—9 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30—WABD-TV (Channel 5)—7:45 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30—WMGM (1050 kc)—9 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 1—WBNX (1380 kc)—5 p.m.—in Spanish.

## NLRB

(Continued from Page 3) led unions with the Fur and Leather Workers, headed by Ben Gold, marked first to be deprived of NLRB rights on a national scale. Gold is under indictment for allegedly signing a T-H affidavit falsely. Under Farmer's new ruling no local of the IFLWU could obtain certification.

As fast as the NLRB can get an indictment against at least one officer of any other union, similar sweeping steps can be taken to deprive more organizations of labor of certification rights.

Spokesmen of the IFLWU said the union will lose no time in challenging the Farmer ruling. Already steps have been taken to enjoin the board from even depriving the Cincinnati local of its bargaining rights.

The union points out that while Schooler may have been a member of the Communist Party, there was no proof that he was a member at the time he signed the T-H affidavit, in August, 1950.

Gold was a member of the Party, but he resigned to qualify for the affidavit.

## Classified Ads

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# Jailed, Beaten, Exiled for His Ideas, He Returned in Triumph

By DAVID PLATT

Edino Krieger, Brazilian composer, has set to music Ethel Rosenberg's last letter to 'Michael and Bobby,' beginning, "You shall know, my sons, why we leave the song unsung...." The words and music appear in the current issue of 'Sing Out,' a People's Artists' publication.

One of England's finest film critics, Richard Winnington of the conservative London News Chronicle, died not long ago. It is a loss that will be hard to make up. Winnington had an independent outlook and was always in the thick of the fight against war films.

He shared the concern of all decent-thinking people at the growing number of films with nothing to offer but naked force and violence. In one of his last reviews, he said the following about the Hollywood film 'Pick Up On South Street,' which made a hero of the paid informer: "... The police are violent and cynical; the pick-pocket will not hesitate to knock a girl unconscious; the stool-pigeon would sell her own grandmother, the girl is a drab. They would betray each other at the drop of a hat; love of country, religion, loyalty, are alike empty of significance in their hard and vicious world.... There is nowhere to be found any criticism, even by implication, of the moral code of these jungle patriots. It is enough that they are Red-haters...."

His review of 'Operation Malaya,' a British film directed against the liberation movement in that country, said: "... the terrorists are cowards, says the film, and shows them as extremely brave men, outnumbered in every respect but fighting on. They are stupid, says the film, yet they keep everybody on the run. They are merely bandits, says the film, yet they deliberately choose hanging as men, die for a cause rather than give one word of capitulation... try as it will, 'Operation Malaya' can't put it over... throughout the piece one is kept firmly reminded of the really important principles—tin—rubber—rubber—tin."

He was the brother of Alan Winnington, North Korean correspondent of the London Daily Worker. Remarkable isn't it that no British McCarthyite rose up to charge Richard Winnington with "guilt by association." Unbelievable, isn't it, that the News Chronicle did not demand he turn informer against his brother as the price for keeping his film writing job.

It didn't happen because witchhunting of persons whose opinions do not conform to the ideas of the money-changers has not been in season in England for a long time.

Speaking of the persecution of individuals for their thoughts, the great Frenchman Voltaire spent most of his life trying to elude the Attorney General. At the age of 23 he spent time in jail for writing pamphlets lampooning the dead Louis XIV and denouncing the poisonings of his successor. There was hardly a year thereafter that his books were not condemned or burned or his person safe from arrest.

Voltaire was imprisoned twice, beaten up more than once, sent into exile, spied upon, lied about. Stooppigeons had a field day in his time. Their word was law, then as now. The Bastille overflowed with their tortured victims. Out of that age of frameups and lynchings came Voltaire's famous remark that "if anyone accused me of stealing Notre Dame Cathedral I would take the next boat to London."

How did Voltaire finally manage to keep on telling the truth about the times he lived in and yet manage to evade the French FBI?

"He bought a house near Geneva, close to the meeting point of four jurisdictions, Geneva, Sardinia, France and the Canton Vaud, with still other Swiss cantons within easy reach. He bought other houses in these various territories so as never to be without a refuge in time of storms. If French officers should get after him he could live in Switzerland and if the Swiss pursued him he could be on Sardinian soil" (Harlan Read's 'Fighters for Freedom').

Such was the persecution of Voltaire by the McCarthyites of his time. Did their attacks on this genius for a period of 60 years get them anywhere? Nowhere at all. The glorious French Revolution was only a few years off when Voltaire returned triumphantly to Paris after a long exile. He was the hero of the hour and the ruling class, much as they wanted to, couldn't lay a finger on him. Today, Voltaire's noble defense of human rights is being carried on by the Smith Act defendants.

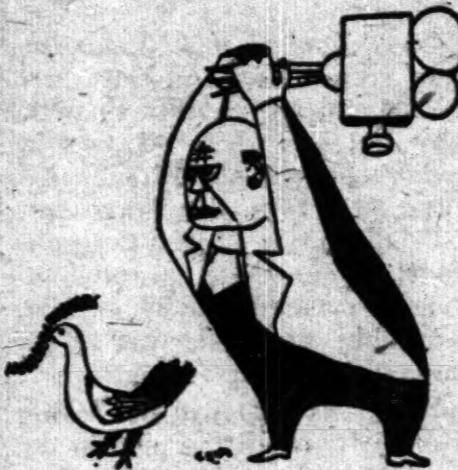
Voltaire's progressive ideas about liberty and justice influenced Tom Paine and Tom Jefferson. Through these great spokesmen for the democratic way of life, there came into being the Bill of Rights—and its Fifth Amendment.

This amendment, which gives protection against informers, is the fruit of centuries of experience with Gestapo frameups assisted by despicable types like Budenz and Greenglass. The defense of this Amendment is an essential part of the fight against fascism in our country.

P.S.—Thanks to the following for their contributions to the fund drive through this column. Please keep it up: Ruth, \$5; Paterson, N. J., \$10; Mrs. Cohan, \$5; JLG, \$1; Morris Schappes, \$10; Madeline Wisc., \$2; Anonymous, \$2. Grand total to date: \$489.

## LENA GURR SHOW AT ACA GALLERY

The paintings of Lena Gurr are on exhibit through November 7th at the ACA Gallery, 63 East 57th Street.



## Spencer Tracy's Convincing Performance

By BEN LEVINE

Jean Simmons does a beautiful job in the title role of "The Actress," the MGM picture now playing at the Translux Theatre, 60th St. and Madison Ave. The movie, based on Ruth Gordon's play, "Years Ago," tells of the hopes and dreams of a stage-struck teen-age girl. The pathos is saved from sentimentality by realistic scenes of a Massachusetts small town family striving to make ends meet.

An audience that is interested only in the teen-age part of the picture would be somewhat disappointed at the sudden way it ends, just when the heroine is setting out for New York to look for a job on the stage, with only her father's spyglass as her capital, with no prospect in sight, with no experience, and, from what the picture tells us, with little talent. Such an ending, honest as it undoubtedly is, leaves the viewer as dissatisfied as if a half-eaten apple were snatched from him.

Of course the audience may be presumed to take "judicial notice" of the fact that the heroine's name is Ruth Gordon Jones, and that this, combined with the fact that Ruth Gordon wrote the original play, would hint that the story is autobiographical and that actual history supplies the successful sequel. But the transition from Ruth Gordon Jones to Ruth Gordon is an awfully big gap for the imagination to fill.

However, the most interesting part of the movie is not the Ruth Gordon story. It is the story of the heroine's father, played by Spencer Tracy, who gives a convincing performance of an American employee who faces retirement and old age without a pension and with practically no savings.

This employee's name is Jones and he may be considered symbolic of the better paid employee of America of the decade before the First World War. He makes \$37.50 a week, after 24 years on the job, with two half-yearly bonuses of \$5. Though such a salary is far above the average wage for 1912 in the U. S., yet Jones gets by only by counting on the bonuses, for which, he comments bitterly, he must scrape and bow, for 52 weeks in the year. He makes quite a convincing argument (Spencer Tracy is really excellent there) in proving that the position of even a highly-paid American worker is one of "poverty" (this is the word he emphasizes) and slavery.

When Jones suggests to the boss that the bonus be made part his pay, so he doesn't have to spend the year worrying about it, he is fired. The picture wants us to believe that a worker old enough to worry about being retired has no recourse at this point but to look for another job. But there is another recourse.

Jones doesn't say it, nor does anyone else in the movie, including his dutiful wife, played with sympathy and understanding by Teresa Wright, but it is obvious to anyone in the audience who thinks about his situation that what he needs as a first step to remedying his desperate economic situation is a union.

The producer may not like it, but Spencer Tracy's convincing performance should convince many workers of things that Hollywood never intended.

## on the scoreboard

by lester rodney

### Mud, Pro Grid, Ray R., Godfrey's Humility

DID THE ACCIDENTAL failure to cover the Polo Grounds gridiron with a tarpaulin until the field was already well drenched late Sunday morning back fire badly against the Giants when the Cleveland Browns proved better mudders than the home boys? (What's that, how can an accident backfire?)

There is a football theory that mud is a great equalizer. Cleveland is clearly the better team and Otto Graham is having his best passing season. The Polo Grounds, a low lying field on the banks of the Harlem, doesn't get good drainage at best. At worst, rained on steadily without tarpaulin protection, the infield portion of the field turned into an ankle deep quagmire.

Oh well, maybe Cleveland would have won by a bigger score on a dryer field. Just a bad year all around for Giants, eh Leo?

THE BROWNS, the most consistently successful professional football team ever, which makes them the New York Yankees of the gridiron in one sense, though hardly in another, have been smartly replacing the fading vets of the great club which hit its peak in '47 and '48.

With Billy Reynolds of Pittsburgh, Ken Carpenter of Kentucky and Chick Jagade of Indiana running, they have more ground strength than since the great Motley (still a valuable blocker) was in his fullback prime and Special Delivery Jones at half. That club, with Lavelli and Speedie at their pass catching best as a pair of Don Hutsons, and Bill Willis as great a guard as ever pulled on cleats, isn't matched by this mixture of youngsters and vets.

But this edition of Paul Brown's perennial powerhouse looks more than equal to the task of finishing on top in the Eastern Conference, where with the demise of the Giants the opposition must come from twice beaten Pittsburgh or ditto Philadelphia. The Browns are unbeaten after 5 games, no small feat in the bruising combat of the play for pay circuit.

BELATED THOUGHT—in case anyone didn't understand the reference above to the Browns being the Yankees of the grid in one sense but not another, meant that unlike the Yanks, in fact quite the opposite, the Browns were the first pro football team to smash jimmie right down the line. Like the Brooklyn Dodgers in baseball, they have retained, in fan attraction and gate appeal on the road, the aura of the pioneers of democracy in their game even though other teams followed suit.

Right now the Browns have four Negro players—Motley, from Nevada, the former great fullback now near the end; Willis, the remarkable Ohio State guard mentioned above, also past the peak; Horace Gillom, also from Nevada, the punting star and end reserve; Len Ford, topnotch defensive end out of Michigan.

The Los Angeles Rams have six Negro players, as an example of what the game was missing in the lilywhite years. They are Dan Towler, league's top ground gaining fullback; Woodley Lewis, spectacular safety man who raced 78 yards at Detroit two weeks ago and is a constant threat with kickoffs and punts; Bob Boyd, a new pass catching end just out of the service, who collaborated with passer Norm Van Brocklin Sunday for 70 and 49 yard touchdown plays; Harry Thompson, a workmanlike offensive tackle, Dick Lane, a superior defensive back, and Tank Younger, hard running halfback.

FIGHT STUFF—It now looks like Ray Robinson, at 30, will follow the trail of the many who announced their retirement and then came back for another big gate—in this case a title fight against Bob Olson. It's no secret that Ray is not exactly poverty stricken, even if he weren't making money as a dancer now. But up at the IBC the one concern is for big money matches, and the only one they see for Olson is Robinson. Hence, a fat offer to the ex champ.

Next comes pressure for another big payday from ex-manager George Gainford, no worse and no better than most fight managers, which means never one more concerned with the welfare of the fighter at hand than the cash he wants in hand. He kept Robinson making the welter limit long after it was becoming dangerous.

Finally, there is undoubtedly the easily-aroused feeling of pride of craft in Robinson, showing once again that he is the best, and being handsomely paid off for so doing...

Look for an Olson-Robinson fight, mates.

Elihu Hicks, who looked it over from the working press pew at the Garden, which is a lot closer than the best television set can bring you, thinks Pierre Langlois rated the decision over Garth Panter Friday night.

Would you be too surprised if Johnny Bratton, a very fine fighter on a good night, knocked off Kid Gavilan, who shouldn't be making the welter limit any more? That one, fortunately for New York fans, will be in Chicago, which means it will be televised here.

WHAT A LAUGH—Arthur Godfrey firing somebody from his show because he "lacked humility." Has Godfrey got humility? The dictionary gives the following for the word: "The quality of being humble. Deference, courtesy, kindness...."

Godfrey's just full of that humility stuff, isn't he? Dictator over the personal lives of those who perform on his show, doesn't want them to have an agent or seek money anywhere else. (Free enterprise?) Plasters his face all over the country (with the help of agents!) in a series of endorsements of any and every product under the sun, so promiscuous as to become revolting even to folks used to and tolerant of phony endorsements. This was an attempt to frantically capitalize to the last dollar on the publicity over his operation.

Finally, this practitioner of humility, this apostle of deference, courtesy and kindness is an unbridled atom war maniac who howled for dropping it on Korea, who this past Friday morning on the air told his listeners to be sure to get a current magazine whose cover proclaims "A Bomb on Russia in Two Hours." Said Godfrey "We Are Ready!"

The Hearst press, which plasters Godfrey adoringly all over page one, sure knows its boy.

The companies whose products he hucksters ought to start hearing from people who don't care about mixing callous firings, high hypocrisy and atom bombs with their cigarettes and tea.

# Demand Congress Probe Jail Assault

(Continued from Page 1)  
of the American working people, a war hero—a true patriot.

He is Bob Thompson, victim of a savage and unprovoked assault by a self-confessed assassin, Alexander Pavlovic, in the Federal Detention House at West St.

According to the undisputed evidence of prison officials, Pavlovic had never exchanged a word with Thompson. On Friday at about noon, as Thompson stood on the prison chow line, Pavlovic took from inside his clothing a long, lead pipe and brought it down with tremendous force on Thompson's head. As Thompson's knees buckled under him, Pavlovic swung again, crushing Thompson's skull both front and rear.

Guards quickly overpowered Pavlovic. Thompson was rushed to St. Vincent's hospital and later in the day transferred to Bellevue prison ward where he lies in critical condition after a four-hour brain operation.

I am co-counsel for Bob Thompson in a contempt case, and was the last friend he saw on Friday, Oct. 23, only an hour before the brutal attack on him.

#### SAW ASSAILANT

Like him I, too, am a victim of the Smith Act. And like Bob Thompson I, too, spent some time in the Federal Detention House at West St. And like Thompson, I, too, have seen his assailant, Pavlovic, at close range.

Thus, I may be in a unique position to relate the background of this horrible, unprovoked attack—and possibly to explain its larger meaning to all decent Americans.

For, make no mistake about it,

this attempt to kill Bob Thompson has a profound importance for all Americans. But perhaps its lesson can best be approached by reviewing the facts briefly.

Bob Thompson is 38, Oregon-born and a machinist by trade. In the early thirties he joined a trade union and soon became convinced that the Communist movement showed the way to an America of peace and plenty for all.

When Francisco Franco, aided by Hitler and Mussolini, sought to overthrow the legally elected Spanish democratic republic, Bob Thompson was deeply stirred. He became one of that group of heroic Americans to join forces with the Spanish Loyalists through the International Brigade. He served in the Lincoln and the Mackenzie-Papineau battalions in which he rose to officer rank. In that immortal struggle against fascism, Bob Thompson was twice wounded.

After the Spanish Republic was strangled, with the aid of Hitler and Mussolini and—it must be said to our everlasting shame—the embargo of the U.S. government—Bob Thompson returned to the U.S. Again he took his place in the Communist movement.

#### WORLD WAR II

But not for long. In a few years the war that could have been stopped at Madrid by defeating Franco, Hitler and Mussolini, broke out in Europe and Asia. With our involvement, Bob Thompson was again in uniform, this time with the sister outfit of my own S3rd—the famous 32nd (Red Arrow) Division.

The rest is pretty well known history. Staff Sergeant Bob Thompson went to New Guinea with his outfit and there set a record that is one of the glories of the 32nd Division. At one of the most critical moments in the battle of Buna he volunteered for a most dangerous

mission—to swim across a swiftly-flowing stream and knock out two Japanese machinegun nests.

For this achievement Bob Thompson received the second highest award in the gift of our nation, the Distinguished Service Cross. The citation was for—and I quote—"extraordinary heroism."

Thompson's selfless devotion and his leadership caused his superior officers to offer him a captaincy. But it was too late. The New Guinea jungle and the rigors of two wars had taken its toll. Thompson came down with malaria and tuberculosis and was discharged with a 100 percent disability.

Bob Thompson returned to civilian life—to continue his patriotic struggle, first to win the war and then guarantee the peace. With all his strength he supported the anti-Axis war until Nazi Germany and the Mikado's Japan were defeated.

Bob Thompson and the Communist Party, together with millions throughout the world, supported the United Nations when it was formed at San Francisco in 1945. If, he reasoned, the U.S., the Soviet Union, Britain, France, China and the other nations could work together in war—why not in peace?

#### COLD WAR

But matters were not to work out that way. With Roosevelt's death, the grand alliance between the U.S., the Soviet Union and England—an alliance based on U.S.-Soviet friendship in the first place—was broken. New aggressive policies, the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, took its place. The cold war was on.

At home men who questioned these new policies, who wanted to return to the policies of Roosevelt, were hounded and abused. One by one public officials who in Roosevelt's day had spoken for peace were silenced. Editors found it more discreet to fall into line. Labor leaders began to waver and finally most, with a few honorable exceptions, got on the bandwagon.

The era of the loyalty oath, the witchhunt, the Taft-Hartley law has begun. Communist leaders, trade unionists, movie writers and doctors were haled before Congressional inquisitions. Crooks like Parnell Thomas brought men like Communist secretary Eugene Dennis before him and brought about his sentencing for a year because Dennis defended the Bill of Rights.

But this was too slow for the Wall Street-Washington gang. The cold war Administration brought about the indictment under the Smith Act of Communist Party chairman, William Z. Foster, Eugene Dennis, Benjamin J. Davis, Bob Thompson and eight others. They were charged with conspiring—that's legal language for agreeing—for agreeing to teach and advocate their political views. Those views, embodied in the philosophy known as Marxism-Leninism, the government said, added up to the advocacy of the doctrine of overthrow of the government by force and violence.

The rest of the story is well-known. Foster's case was severed because of seriously ill health and the 11 were convicted by a biased and intimidated, FBI-screened jury. Judge and prosecutor were both rewarded by promotions. The Supreme Court validated the convictions over the bitter dissents of Justice Black and Douglas.

On July 2, 1951 Bob Thompson became a political refugee. Seized in August of this year by the FBI he was brought to New York to stand trial on charges of contempt of court. His trial was to begin this morning in Federal Court.

That's Bob Thompson's story. An American worker, a Communist, an anti-fascist fighter, a war

hero, a battler for peace.

And what of his assailant—Alexander Pavlovic? Who is this man Pavlovic and why did he select Thompson as his victim? Pavlovic is a Yugoslav fascist who jumped ship and is seeking to stay in this country. He was scheduled to leave on a ship for Yugoslavia on the very Friday he wantonly assaulted Thompson. He was, by his own admission, a partisan of Mihailovic, who collaborated with Hitler. He boasts that he assassinated his own countrymen for Mihailovic.

He was arrested in Chicago for shaking down a Yugoslav national. He pleaded guilty to petit larceny and was given 90 days in jail where he was served with his deportation papers. He brags continually that he is an anti-Communist. His immediate purpose in making the assault on Thompson, it is readily admitted, was to remain in this country.

But why, you must be asking yourself, why of all the men in the Federal Detention House did Pavlovic choose Thompson as the target of his murderous attack? Why did he choose a man with whom he never exchanged a word? What was the thinking behind that evil selection?

The answer is plain as a pike-staff. He chose Thompson because Thompson is a Communist.

Pavlovic plainly believed that in the current atmosphere of official McCarthyism the murder of a Communist would be a hallmark of good American citizenship. He thought he could write out his naturalization papers with the blood of a Communist.

In an immediate sense Pavlovic is, of course, guilty and must be swiftly and ruthlessly punished. But in a larger sense responsibility lies at the door of Attorney General Brownell, head of the Department of Justice and thus chief of the FBI and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

**McCarthyism**

Yes, responsibility lies in the anti-Communist, anti-labor, anti-democratic atmosphere developed by a Senator McCarthy, a State Secretary Dulles, an FBI director Hoover and an Attorney General Brownell. The hand was the hand of a Pavlovic, but the voice was the voice of a McCarthy. McCarthyism, aided and abetted by the Brownell-Hoover political persecutions, has sought to create an open season on Communists, progressives, trade unionists, New Dealers. Yes, anyone who stands for peace and constitutional liberties has been the target of unrestrained abuse.

From abuse, firings, blacklists and jailing it is but a short logical step to force and violence. Fascist Pavlovic took that step—and his demeanor in the courtroom indicates that he thinks he can get away with it.

But he will not. McCarthyism has poisoned the atmosphere, certainly, but not to the extent that Americans will permit attempts at political murder. Of that I am confident.

#### Questions

Many people are already asking questions:

With Pavlovic's admission of assassinations in his home country, why was he permitted to roam loose about the Federal Detention House?

Is it not a fact that he was placed in charge of the second floor of the Detention House on the day of his arrival there?

How come that a murderous weapon, a lead pipe, was conveniently handy to Pavlovic? Who gave it to him?

Was it known to any federal prison officials—prior to the assault—that Pavlovic was on a murderous rampage?

But the matter still raises other questions. What about the security of the other Smith Act prisoners—Eugene Dennis, Benjamin J. Davis,

John Gates and the others? What happened in the West Street prison could happen elsewhere. Elementary humanity requires a swift presidential amnesty for all Smith prisoners and an end to all Smith Act prosecutions, current and contemplated.

I am confident that tens of thousands of Americans of all shades of political opinions were deeply shocked by the attempt to murder Thompson. They have seen an awful preview of the direction of McCarthyism. They begin to see that the assassin's hand is raised today against a Thompson—and tomorrow it may be against some unorthodox liberal, trade unionist or New Dealer.

I ask you, whatever your attitude towards Communists, to join with me in demanding that Bob Thompson get every bit of medical attention required to save his life; that there be a swift Federal investigation of the circumstances in the Federal Detention House which permitted a prisoner to obtain a murderous weapon; that there be swift, relentless punishment for the self-confessed assassin Pavlovic and that prompt presidential amnesty be granted to all Smith Act prisoners.

Above all, I urge you, my listener, and labor in the first place to unite against the peril of McCarthyism.

Before appearing on this broadcast I sent a telegram to Senator William Langer, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanding a Congressional investigation of the suspicious circumstances surrounding the unprovoked murder assault on Thompson.

In view of the fact that the Federal Bureau of Prisons is part of the Department of Justice, no confidence can be placed in any investigation by the Justice Department of its own responsibilities in this matter.

I ask that in the name not only of the man who lies in Bellevue fighting for his life, I ask it in the name of your security and freedom, I ask it in the name of the defense of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

To end the menace of mobs of Pavloves we must unite, irrespective of party lines or religious faiths, against McCarthyism and return our beloved country once again to the path of the Bill of Rights.

## Rally to Climax ALP Campaign Wednesday

Two major election rallies have been scheduled for Manhattan Center this week.

On Wednesday evening, Oct. 28, the American Labor Party will climax its campaign there with Vito Marcantonio, state chairman, and all its top candidates slated to speak. The ALP candidate for Mayor is Clifford T. McAvoy, for President of the City Council, Charles L. Stewart, and for Comptroller, Arthur Schutze.

The following night, the City CIO Committee to Elect Robert F. Wagner, an arm of CIO-PAC, will sponsor a trade union rally for the Democratic candidate in the same hall.

Michael J. Quill, City CIO Council President and head of the Transport Workers Union, Louis Hollander, State CIO President, Morris Jushowitz, secretary of the CIO Council, and other labor leaders are expected to deliver speeches. The Democratic candidate will be joined by Rep. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sen. Herbert H. Lehman and, perhaps, state chairman Richard H. Balch.



## PROTEST MURDER ATTACK RALLY FOR BOB THOMPSON

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*Legislative Director*

**BERNIE BURTON**

*Daily Worker Representative*

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